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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/698,723	10/31/2003	Michael X. Ouyang	CRNG.043	1571
22928	7590	04/18/2006	EXAMINER	
CORNING INCORPORATED			HINES, ANNE M	
SP-TI-3-1			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
CORNING, NY 14831			2879	

DATE MAILED: 04/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/698,723

Applicant(s)

OUYANG, MICHAEL X.

Examiner

Anne M. Hines

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[Signature]

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/10/06
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The response filed on February 2, 2006, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Claims 1-22 are pending in the instant application.

Response to Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

The affidavit filed on February 2, 2006 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered but is ineffective to overcome the Duggal et al. (US 6891330) reference.

The Duggal et al. (US 6891330) reference is a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication of a pending or patented application that claims the rejected invention. An affidavit or declaration is inappropriate under 37 CFR 1.131(a) when the reference is claiming the same patentable invention, see MPEP § 2306. If the reference and this application are not commonly owned, the reference can only be overcome by establishing priority of invention through interference proceedings. See MPEP Chapter 2300 for information on initiating interference proceedings. If the reference and this application are commonly owned, the reference may be disqualified as prior art by an affidavit or declaration under 37 CFR 1.130. See MPEP § 718.

The Examiner points out in particular that Applicant's claimed inventions of independent claims 1 and 14 is the same invention as the Duggal invention of claims 1 and 5 (5 depends from 1). In particular, Duggal claims a flexible substantially transparent substrate with at least one of its surfaces coated with a multilayer barrier

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coating, and organic electroluminescent member which comprises an organic EL layer between two electrodes on said flexible substantially transparent substrate and a reflective metal layer disposed on the organic EL member opposite said flexible substantially transparent substrate capable of reflecting radiation toward said substantially transparent substrate (claim 1). Duggal further claims in dependent claim 5, a light-scattering layer disposed on a surface of said substrate opposite said organic EL member.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 12-15, 17-19, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Duggal et al. (US Pat. No. 6,891,330).

Regarding claim 1, Duggal discloses at least one substantially flexible substrate (Fig. 9, 40; Column 3, line 43), at least one barrier layer (Fig. 9, 50; Column 3, line 46) disposed between the substrate and the OLED structure (Fig. 9, 20; Column 3, lines 41-42), and at least one antireflection (AR) layer (Fig. 9, 90; Column 8, lines 24-25) disposed between the OLED structure and a display surface (Fig. 9, bottom edge).

Regarding claim 3, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 1 wherein the at least one AR layer includes a barrier structure (Column 8, lines 45-50). Wherein TiO_2 and ZrO_2 are inherently dielectric barrier structures because neither material conducts direct current and both provide a barrier against contaminants such as water vapor and oxygen.

Regarding claim 4, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 1 wherein the at least one barrier layer includes at least one stack comprised of a dielectric layer (Fig. 9, 50; Column 7, lines 11-16 and Column 7, lines 62-63) and a light absorbing layer (Fig. 9, 50; Column 8, lines 4-14).

Regarding claim 5, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 4 wherein the at least one barrier layer includes up to ten of the stacks (Column 7, lines 23-25).

Regarding claim 6, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 1 wherein respective dielectric layers are disposed between the at least one AR layer and the OLED structure (Fig. 9, 50; Column 7, lines 62-63), and between the at least one barrier layer and the OLED structure (Fig. 9, 50; Column 7, lines 23-24 and Column 7, lines 62-63). Wherein polymers are inherently dielectric because they do not conduct direct current.

Regarding claim 9, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 4 wherein the light absorbing layer is a metal (Column 8, lines 4-5).

Regarding claim 12, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 5 wherein the dielectric layers each have a mechanical stress, and the light absorbing layers have a mechanical stress, and the mechanical stress of the dielectric layers and the light absorbing layer substantially cancel (Column 2, lines 9-10). Wherein the mechanical

stresses in all layers of a flexible multi-layer structure inherently cancel in order for the structure to be stable.

Regarding claim 13, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 1 wherein the barrier structure and the at least one barrier layer water vapor each prevent permeation water vapor therethrough at a rate less than approximately 10^{-6} g/m²/day and oxygen therethrough at a rate less than approximately 10^{-5} cm³/m²/day (Column 7, lines 16-25).

Regarding claim 14, Duggal discloses a light emitting display device, comprising: at least one substantially flexible substrate (Fig. 9, 40; Column 3, line 43); at least one barrier layer (Fig. 9, 50; Column 3, line 46) disposed between the substrate and a light emitting structure (Fig. 9, 20; Column 3, lines 41-42) and at least one antireflection (AR) layer (Fig. 9, 90; Column 8, lines 24-25) disposed between the light emitting structure and a display surface (Fig. 9, bottom edge).

Regarding claim 15, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 14 wherein the AR layer includes a barrier structure (Column 8, lines 45-50). Wherein TiO₂ and ZrO₂ are inherently dielectric barrier structures because neither material conducts direct current and both provide a barrier against contaminants such as water vapor and oxygen.

Regarding claim 17, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 14 wherein the at least one barrier layer includes at least one stack comprised of a dielectric layer (Fig. 9, 50; Column 7, lines 11-16 and Column 7, lines 62-63) and a light absorbing layer (Fig. 9, 50; Column 8, lines 4-14).

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Regarding claim 18, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 17 wherein the at least one barrier layer includes up to ten of the stacks (Column 7, lines 23-25).

Regarding claim 19, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 17 wherein respective dielectric layers are disposed between the at least one AR layer and the light emitting structure (Fig. 9, 50; Column 7, lines 62-63), and between the at least one barrier layer and the light emitting structure (Fig. 9, 50; Column 7, lines 23-24 and Column 7, lines 62-63).

Regarding claim 22, Duggal discloses the invention of claim 17 wherein the light absorbing layer is a metal (Column 8, lines 4-5).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 7, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duggal et al. (US Pat. No. 6,891,330) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of McCormick et al. (US Pat. No. 6,867,539).

Regarding claim 2, Duggal teaches the invention of claim 1 but fails to teach another substantially flexible substrate disposed over the at least one barrier layer. McCormick teaches a flexible substrate disposed over at least one barrier layer (Fig. 6, 58; Column 7, lines 63-64 and Column 8, lines 44-45) to protect the OLED from

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exposure to oxygen and moisture and allows the OLED display structure to be flexible (Column 1, line 67 to Column 2, line 10). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the OLED display structure of Duggal by disposing a flexible substrate over at least one barrier layer, as disclosed by McCormick, in order to protect the OLED from oxygen and moisture while allowing the finished OLED display structure to remain flexible.

Regarding claim 7, Duggal fails to teach a hydrophobic layer between the other substrate and at least one barrier layer. McCormick teaches a hydrophobic layer between the other substrate and at least one barrier layer (Column 7, lines 63-67) in order to desiccate the interior of the packaged OLED device (Column 5, lines 64-65). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the OLED device of Duggal by adding a hydrophobic layer between the other substrate and at least one barrier layer in order to desiccate the interior of the packaged OLED device.

Regarding claim 8, Duggal fails to teach a hydrophobic layer between the substrate and the OLED structure. McCormick teaches a hydrophobic layer between the substrate and the OLED structure (Column 5, lines 8-10 and Column 5, lines 61-65) in order to desiccate the interior of the packaged OLED device (Column 5, lines 64-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the OLED device of Duggal by adding a hydrophobic layer between the substrate and the OLED structure in order to desiccate the interior of the packaged OLED device.

Claims 16, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duggal et al. (US Pat. No. 6,891,330) as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of McCormick et al. (US Pat. No. 6,867,539).

Regarding claim 16, Duggal teaches the invention of claim 14 but fails to teach another substantially flexible substrate disposed over the at least one barrier layer. McCormick teaches a flexible substrate disposed over at least one barrier layer (Fig. 6, 58; Column 7, lines 63-64 and Column 8, lines 44-45) to protect the OLED from exposure to oxygen and moisture and allows the OLED display structure to be flexible (Column 1, line 67 to Column 2, line 10). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the OLED display structure of Duggal by disposing a flexible substrate over at least one barrier layer, as disclosed by McCormick, in order to protect the OLED from oxygen and moisture while allowing the finished OLED display structure to remain flexible.

Regarding claim 20, Duggal fails to teach a hydrophobic layer between the other substrate and at least one barrier layer. McCormick teaches a hydrophobic layer between the other substrate and at least one barrier layer (Column 7, lines 63-67) in order to desiccate the interior of the packaged OLED device (Column 5, lines 64-65). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the OLED device of Duggal by adding a hydrophobic layer between the other substrate and at least one barrier layer in order to desiccate the interior of the packaged OLED device.

Regarding claim 21, Duggal fails to teach a hydrophobic layer between the substrate and the OLED structure. McCormick teaches a hydrophobic layer between the

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substrate and the OLED structure (Column 5, lines 8-10 and Column 5, lines 61-65) in order to desiccate the interior of the packaged OLED device (Column 5, lines 64-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the OLED device of Duggal by adding a hydrophobic layer between the substrate and the OLED structure in order to desiccate the interior of the packaged OLED device.

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (US Pat. No. 6,891,330) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Dickson (US Pat. No. 4,066,925).

Regarding claim 10, Duggal teaches the invention of claim 14 wherein at least one barrier layer includes a light absorbing layer (Fig. 9, 50; Column 8, lines 4-5). Duggal fails to teach the barrier layer including a dielectric layer having a thickness equal to one quarter wavelength of a visible wavelength and a light reflecting layer. Dickson teaches a barrier layer including a dielectric layer having a thickness equal to one quarter wavelength of a visible wavelength (Column 4, lines 23-27) and a light reflecting layer (Column 3, line 65 to Column 4, line 1; Column 2, lines 22-24) in order to increase the transmissivity of the barrier layer (Column 2, lines 22-24). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the OLED device of Duggal to add a dielectric layer having a thickness equal to one quarter wavelength of a visible wavelength and a light reflecting layer, as disclosed by Dickson, to the barrier layer in order to increase the transmissivity of the barrier layer.

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Regarding claim 11, Duggal teaches the light absorbing layer as a metal but fails to teach the light reflecting layer as a mirror. Dickson teaches a light reflecting layer, see claim 10 rejection, but does not teach the light reflecting layer as a mirror. However, the American Heritage ® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition defines a mirror as a surface capable of reflecting sufficient undiffused light. It is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that a light reflecting layer, since it reflects, is a mirror.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne M. Hines whose telephone number is (571) 272-2285. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00-4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Anne M Hines
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2879

AMH
4/4/06

MS 4/13/06
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PRIMARY EXAMINER